To:

Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Welfare

From:

Dave Mitchell, Bureau Chief, First Supervisorial District

Subject:

Los Angeles County Probation Department's Involvement in Child Welfare

The Los Angeles County Probation Department currently has approximately 1,100 youth in the foster care system. If you were to compare that number to other counties in the State, the Los Angeles County Probation Department would be considered the eighth largest Child Welfare System in the State. We will focus on the three major areas of impact for Los Angeles County Probation and the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS); The Title IV-E Waiver, Cross Over Youth and Transition Age Youth.

## The Title IV-E Capped Allocation Demonstration Project (CAPD)

The Probation Department receives Federal Title IV-E funds to administer and provide placement costs for our foster care population. For the last seven years, the Department has been part of the Title IV-E Child Welfare Capped Allocation Demonstration Project (CAPD), also known as the Waiver. The basic premise of the Waiver is that participating counties would receive a capped allocation grant of Title IV-E funds for five years from the Federal government. If the counties could reduce their reliance on out-of-home care, the money saved could be used to reinvest in strategies that would help reduce the number of youth entering the foster care system. An Executive Summary of the CAPD is attached (Attachment A).

# Success of the CAPD (Waiver)

The Probation Department has worked hand-in-hand with our County Child Welfare counterparts, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the State's California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to negotiate and develop several successful Waiver strategies. As a result of the Waiver, the Probation Department has reduced our reliance on Group Home Care by approximately 50% in the last seven years. This reduction has enabled us to move resources from placement costs to community services, allowing us to create more community-based services. These services have been integral in permitting youth to stay in the community in their natural ecology rather than being placed in a foster care setting. (Refer to Title IV-E attachment for strategies and programs implemented.) CDSS, DCFS and Probation are currently in negotiations for a five-year extension of the CAPD with the Federal government.

## Challenges for Probation Foster Care in the Waiver

Challenges for Probation Departments participating in the Waiver throughout the State still center around Probation being seen as equal partners on Child Welfare issues. The Statewide foster care populations of probation youth only represent 7-10% of the overall State foster care population. Federal and State funding streams offered to County administered Child Welfare Departments are not always accessible to or proportionally equal for Probation Departments; yet, Probation must meet all of the Federal mandates that Child Welfare is required to meet.

This was painfully obvious when all Probation Departments were mandated to utilize the Statewide Child Welfare System, Case Management System (CWS/CMS) without a viable interface or funding. This mandate now requires probation officers to dual enter case management information into CWS/CMS and their own respective case management systems. Outcomes for the Waiver are being pulled from the CWS/CMS system. Probation data is not as complete as Child Welfare data and outcomes for the State will be impacted.

Another large challenge for probation is to remove the stigma applied to probation foster youth. Probation has fought hard to get equal access to services afforded to all foster youth and has made great strides in this area, yet CBO's and other LA County agencies are not always as willing to provide equal access. Probation Foster Youth are seen as different and less deserving, even though many of our youth emanated from the Child Welfare System.

# **Dual Jurisdiction 241.1 or Cross- Over Youth**

Los Angeles County adopted its first comprehensive Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 241.1 protocol in 1997 that was designed to better serve youth who cross between the dependency and delinquency systems. The protocol required the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation to prepare joint assessments for each child involved in the dependency and delinquency systems, and to recommend to the Delinquency Court which system could best serve the interest of the child and the community.

In November 2012, a report was issued to the Board of Supervisors (Board) on how to strengthen two projects aimed at preventing foster youth from crossing over into delinquency, and ensuring they get the services and supervision needed. These projects are the 241.1 Project and the Delinquency Prevention Pilot. Based on recommendations included in that report, on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the Board outlined six additional directives to expand mental health and substance abuse services provided as part of the 241.1 Project and strengthen the program evaluation. (See 241.1 Attachments 1)

### **Success of Dual Supervision**

The 241.1 Dual Supervision Program has been a great example of a positive collaborative effort between Child Welfare, DCFS, Probation, the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Delinquency and Dependency Courts.

As a result of our efforts, all departments are conducting effective Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) decision meetings that are client centered. Case plans and court reports are developed with "what is in the best interest of the youth" philosophy. As a result of this effort, Probation has seen a 30 percent reduction in the number of youth that cross over from dependency to delinquency. I have attached (241.1 Attachments 2 and 3) for your review of the current structure, data collection efforts and function of the 241.1 unit.

### **Challenges for Dual Supervision**

The major challenge for the Dual Supervision Program is to get youth that have completed their programming in Probation but still fit the criteria of 300 WIC, (Abandonment, Abuse or Neglect), returned to the Dependency system in a timely manner. Many of these youth languish in group home or congregate care, stay on probation for three to four years, until they age out of foster care or can find a permanent living arrangement, because they do not have a suitable home to return to. We are currently working with Presiding Judge Nash on finalizing the legal and procedural vehicles to return these youth to Child Welfare.

### **Transition Age Youth**

Since 2001, The Probation Department and DCFS have been involved in a collaborative effort to service youth that are transitioning from foster care through our Youth Development Services Program (YDS). As a result of this effort, Probation YDS staff are now co-located with staff from DCFS YDS.Probation has gained equal access to services and resources including but not limited to; Housing, scholarships, tuition assistance, rental assistance, vocational, employment services and access to AB 12 (Extended Foster Care) services. This partnership has been successful because it is comanaged by DCFS and Probation, program decision and budget decisions are made by both Departments. The biggest influence, however, on the success of this program has been the co-location of staff. Both DCFS and Probation pooled their staffing resources to serve YDS eligible youth, not distinguishing what system the youth are emancipating from.

#### **AB 12**

Since the enactment of AB 12 (Extended Foster Care) in January 2012, youth in foster care are now allowed to stay in the foster care system with supportive services until

their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Youth may agree to stay in their current placement, live in a Transitional Housing Program or a Supervised Independent Living Program (SILP) with rental assistance and supportive services. This law provides a safety net for youth transitioning from foster care. (See Attachment 5 on AB12/212).

### Success of AB 12

- January 1, 2012 The Los Angeles County Probation Department is only one of approximately six (6) counties in the State to take on the supervision of former probation youth over 18 years old who elect to remain in foster care under the newly legislated Juvenile Court Jurisdiction, WIC 450 - Transition Jurisdiction. Probation's Transition Jurisdiction Services (TJS) Program is born.
- TJS records the first Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) in California
- Probation, in collaboration with the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles and the Alliance for Children's Rights, develops and trains all Bench Officers and Superior Court Clerical Staff on AB 12 for probation youth
- Probation and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) develop guidelines for a new type of placement for youth in extended foster care under AB 12 called Transitional Housing Placement Plus Foster Care (THP+FC). A limited number of THP+FC are allowed to emerge and take in foster youth while a formal contract is developed.
- January 1, 2014 Probation's TJS supervises 180 AB 12 Nonminor Dependents (NMD) under WIC 450 – Transition Jurisdiction.

# Challenges

- Caseloads under WIC 450 Transition Jurisdiction have grown steadily since
  January 1, 2012. Given the likelihood that WIC 450 cases will remain in care for
  three years (until the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday), the total caseload of EFC youth under WIC
  450 will be up to approximately 300 by 2015. More staff will need to be assigned
  to TJS to meet the growing caseload.
- Youth entering extended foster care under WIC 450 Transition Jurisdiction have significant challenges including critical mental health and emotional trauma issues and require intensive supervision and support.
- Appropriate foster care placements for the population described above are limited.

# **Recommendations for Systems improvement**

- Probation youth should be treated in the same fashion as DCFS youth.
- Co-location of DCFS, DMH and Probation staff where it is appropriate.
- Case management systems must speak to each other.
- Proportionate resources for eligible populations must equally be shared.
- Data systems should be developed to measure outcomes and the effectiveness of programs.
- Delinquency prevention strategies should be implemented in DCFS.
- All youth should be seen as a County issue, not a Department issue.

# TITLE IV-E CHILD WELFARE CAPPED ALLOCATION DEMONSTRATION PROJECT LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On June 26, 2006, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the Title IV-E Child Welfare Capped Allocation Demonstration Project (CADP), allowing the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation) to expand and implement their first sequence CADP strategies and fill necessary staff positions. Under this plan, effective July 1, 2007, the Departments began to implement critical system changes in the way child welfare services are provided to children and families in the County. First sequence strategies focused on providing services and finding permanency for youth in extended care and group home care. On February 3, 2009, the Board approved the Departments' second sequence CADP strategies and the filling of necessary staff positions. Second sequence strategies continued to focus on permanency for targeted youth and were expanded to provide preventative services and assessments for families at the front end of the system.

On December 13, 2011, the Board approved the enhanced and expanded strategies for the CADP. These enhanced and expanded strategies targeted CADP reinvestment funds toward strategies that address improved safety, increased permanency and enhanced self-sufficiency.

### I. Goals:

The goals outlined in the CADP are increased child safety, shorter timelines to permanency, increased placement stability and improved child and family well-being. Specifically, Probation has begun to achieve these goals by implementing strategies that:

- Provide more preventive services;
- Increase the number and array of services to allow more children to remain safely in their home;
- Reduce the reliance on out-of-home care through the provision of intensive, focused, individualized services;
- Reduce the number of children and their length of stay in congregate care while ensuring that individualized case planning and appropriate community alternatives are in place first; and
- Reduce the timelines to permanency.

#### II. Initiatives:

### First Sequence:

Placement Assessment Centers (PAC) - Probation has utilized Placement Assessment Centers throughout the Waiver. Newly placed youth assigned to one of the PACs and spend 30-45 days receiving extensive educational, psycho-social, substance abuse and criminogenic risk assessments facilitated by licensed Clinical Social Workers.

- Probation added two additional group homes in May 2012, with ten beds each, to assess the female population and increase capacity for males. 10 of these beds will be for males and 10 for females.
- There are currently a total of 80 PAC beds. 70 male beds and 10 female beds.

Expansion of Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Functional Family Probation (FFP) and Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) — Probation implemented FFT and MST, two evidence-based programs designed to treat youth and families. Initially, 15 DPOs were trained in FFT. Probation also implemented FFP, which is a supervision model, steeped in the tenets of FFT. As a direct result of the reduction in out-of-home placements and based on the growing need to expand services to youth transitioning home as well as prevent youth from entering foster care, the Department was able to convert 9 additional DPOs from Residential-based Supervision to FFP Supervision. This strategic expansion of the FFP supervision model has ensured that more youth leaving congregate care will be provided with strength-based, intensive supervision occurring in the home. Prior to the start of the CAP, youth ordered Home on Probation visited their DPO once a month in a Probation area office. These DPOs typically carry upwards of 100 cases as opposed to the 20 cases that are carried by FFP DPOs who provide supervision in the home.

### Second Sequence:

Prospective Authorization and Utilization Review (PAUR) Unit – Probation has established the PAUR unit to assist in matching youth and families with appropriate services. This unit improves consistency in service utilization, as referrals to services are pre-approved based on whether a youth and family meet the specified focus of service. The PAUR unit handles referrals for Family Preservation, FFT, FFP and MST and processes referrals for youth who are considered at-risk of entering out-of-home care. The PAUR unit also oversees referrals for those youth transitioning from

Placement back to the community and ensures that these programs are operating at full capacity. Each case is systematically reviewed to determine if the service provided addresses the youth's risks and needs as identified through assessments, the Probation Case Management System (PCMS), Court orders and Conditions of Probation.

### Third Sequence:

241.1 WIC Dual Supervision Countywide Expansion — Probation, in collaboration with Superior Court (Juvenile Presiding Judge), DCFS, DMH and other stakeholders are implementing the enhanced Dual Status Project as part of the Crossover Youth Initiative. This initiative has expanded countywide, significantly increasing current caseloads for DPOs and CSWs. This project includes pre and post adjudication Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings, involving partner agencies, education, parent/guardian, youth and community-based organizations, enhanced assessment and enhanced cross systems case management. Probation has used flexible funds to expand this unit by 10 DPOs and 1 SDPO.

Foster Youth Education Project – Probation and DCFS are working together to expand the Gloria Molina Foster Youth Education Project. The goal of this initiative is to increase graduation rates by identifying an educational advocate for each foster youth, improving academic performance through the use of educational case plans and data gathering, and encouraging student retention in the K-12 school system. Probation is using Waiver funds to pilot this program for Probation youth in all Supervisorial Districts (countywide) by contracting with Children, Youth and Family Collaborative (CYFC).

**Group Home Aftercare Services** – Group Home providers have contracts with DMH to provide coordinated case management aftercare services to youth returning home from care. These services assist in providing a continuum of care and ensure linkages are made once the youth transitions home. This strategy will improve permanency resulting in a decrease of reentries into out-of-home care.

**Expansion of Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance Group Home Monitoring Unit** – The Placement Permanency Quality Assurance Unit currently has four Group Home Monitors who are required to conduct compliance reviews on 24 agencies at 59 sites. The Group Home Monitors also investigate any allegation of non-compliance to the County contract as well as any allegation of maltreatment or child

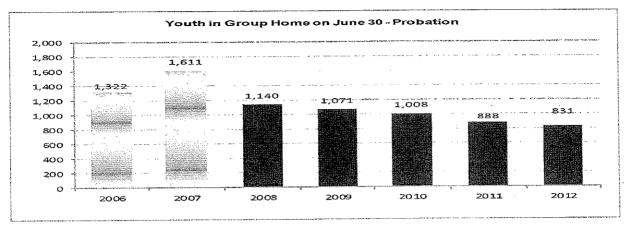
endangerment occurring at any of the Group Homes. Given the volume of high-priority responsibilities, Probation expanded this unit by hiring two DPOs and four Program Analysts. This will ensure that allegations of maltreatment are investigated in a timelier manner and that our youth are placed in safer, more stable care.

Expansion of Substance Abuse Services – Probation has developed and finalized an MOU with the Department of Public Health to use existing contracted agencies to provide community-based services to youth identified with substance abuse risk factors. The availability and utilization of these services will provide judicial officers with community-based alternatives for substance abuse violations resulting in less detentions and out-of-home removals. The PAUR unit began receiving referrals for these services in June 2012.

Youth Development Services (YDS) - Chaffee/Foster Care Independence Act funds (federal and state dollars) are used to fund YDS transition age youth between ages 16 and 21. Probation has used Waiver funds to redirect an equal amount of Chafee funds for the YDS Individualized Transition Skills Program contract. This will afford funds to provide Independent Living Program (ILP) supportive services to the age 16-21 eligible Transition Age Youth (TAY) population and support each youth's self-sufficiency plans by providing direct funds for housing assistance, employment, job training, clothes, and transportation and education assistance. Probation has finalized an MOU and a DSO with Community Senior Services (CSS) to provide full-time employment opportunities for at least 100-125 Probation TAY youths. This will assist youth with successful transition back into the community by obtaining employment.

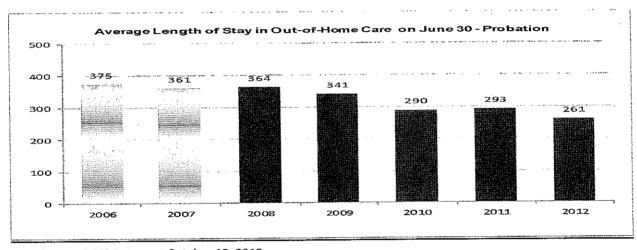
#### III. Successes:

During the five-year Waiver period, Probation focused most of its efforts on the creation of aftercare services. Probation sought to decrease the length of stay in out-of-home care in favor of in-home aftercare services, which resulted in a significant reduction of youth in out-of-home care. The chart below shows the 35.7% decrease (502) in the number of youth in out-of home care.



Data Source: DCFS Datamart October 12, 2012.

The following chart shows how average length of stay in Probation's foster care has decreased during the Waiver period by 114 days or 30.4% compared to the baseline period.



Data Source: DCFS Datamart October 12, 2012.

### Introduction

### **Background Information**

A 2011 report by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation found that transition-aged youth who had been involved in both the dependency and delinquency systems fared significantly worse as young adults than youth who had only been involved in one of these systems. They were 50 percent less likely to be employed, twice as likely to be on public assistance, and three times more likely to have spent time in jail than their counterparts.

Los Angeles County adopted its first comprehensive Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 241.1 protocol in 1997 that was designed to better serve youth who cross between the dependency and delinquency systems. The protocol required the departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation to prepare joint assessments for each child involved in the dependency and delinquency systems, and to recommend to the delinquency court which system could best serve the interest of the child and the community.

In November 2012, a report was issued to the Board of Supervisors (Board) on how to strengthen two projects aimed at preventing foster youth from crossing over into delinquency, and ensuring they get the services and supervision needed. These projects are the 241.1 Project and the Delinquency Prevention Pilot. Based on recommendations included in that report, on March 12th and 19th, 2013, the Board outlined six additional directives to expand mental health and substance abuse services provided as part of the 241.1 project and strengthen the program evaluation.

On March 12, 2013, a motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in conjunction with the Directors of the departments of Mental Health (DMH), Public Health (DPH) and DCFS, to implement the 241.1 Crossover Youth Project recommendations identified in the November 2012 report, and:

- 1. Instructed the 241.1 DMH PSWs to provide specific recommendations as to the type of mental health services a youth needs, and which agencies in the youth's service area could provide such services;
- 2. Authorized the Director of DPH to develop a process for referring crossover youth identified by the multi-disciplinary team as needing substance abuse assessment and treatment, and a process for tracking the number of youth identified as needing substance abuse services, the number of referrals made, and the number of youth who receive these services;
- 3. Instructed the CEO, DCFS and affected departments to report annually on the 241.1 evaluation measures identified in the CEO's November 2012 report;
- Instructed County Counsel to work with the CEO to review AB 1405 (2008) and submit revised proposed statutory language to the Legislature to prohibit the use of incriminating information obtained during a clinical interview against a youth in any court proceedings; and
- 5. Directed DCFS to report back to the Board of Supervisors in 60 days on the status of its Delinquency Prevention Pilot, including any outcomes and implementation-related issues.

### Board Directive 3: 241.1 Project Evaluation Measures

The Board also requested that DCFS develop an annual report detailing the following outcomes for 241.1 youth as identified in the November 2012 report:

- Legal Status of Youth
- Number of MDT meetings including DMH Staff Participation
- Number of Youth with Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues compared to Number of Youth with Substance Abuse Only Issues
- Types of MDT Service Recommendations Made
- Number and Type of MDT Service Recommendations Implemented
- Recidivism Rates

Although the 241.1 project has been operating since 2007, outcome data on the services being referred to and received by participating youth were not being collected. After the November 2012 report was released, DCFS, in conjunction with the California State University, Los Angeles, School of Criminal Justice and Criminalistics (CSULA), developed a manual tracking process for collecting this data. As of March 2013, data on MDT services recommended is now being manually collected from DCFS, Probation and DMH on all new 241.1 cases through the Initial Data Collection Form.

A 241.1 Tracking Application has also been recently created to begin tracking outcome data electronically. Currently, this system contains youth demographic data which is obtained electronically through an interface with DCFS' Child Welfare Services/Case Management System. The system is now undergoing configuration and testing so that it will be ready for its scheduled launch in December 2013. Once it is fully implemented, the system will have the capability of tracking youth outcomes electronically and producing data for DCFS' annual report (Attachment 3), the first of which is due in March 2014. Two manual tracking forms, the Initial Data Collection Form and the 241.1 Tracking Form, have been developed to track the MDT meeting service recommendations made and those services received by youth at quarterly intervals. Data from these forms will be entered into this system for all new/recent cases once it has launched.

DCFS' Bureau of Information Systems has developed a project timeline for the programming, testing and system implementation of the 241.1 Tracking Application system enhancements:

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Programming and System Configuration	August - October 2013
Testing and Modification	October - November 2013
System Launch	December 2013

Given the increased work required to enter data on all 241.1 youth from the Initial Data Collection and 241.1 Tracking Forms, as well as correct erroneous entries, Probation and DMH are each anticipating the need for an additional full-time clerical position (Intermediate Typist Clerk). The salary for one full-time equivalent Intermediate Typist Clerk position is \$37,321 plus \$16,048 in employee benefits. Any such staffing adjustments, if determined to be feasible, would require Board action.

# 241.1 Tracking Form (9-30-13)

# What Period of Time is Covered by This Form?

- o 1st Four Months After Dispo or Post Dispo Meeting—Enter into Period 1 Web-Based Form
- o 2nd Four Months After Dispo or Post Dispo Meeting—Enter into Period 2 Web-Based Form
- o 3rd Four Months After Dispo or Post Dispo Meeting—Enter into Period 3 Web-Based Form
- o If case terminates during a period, please complete the period form based on that date rather than the period end date (unless the two dates correspond). Once completed, no more forms need to be completed for youth in this situation.

1.	Youth's PDJ #		
2.	Did youth receive a MDT Post Disposition	0	No-date of disposition:
	Meeting?	0	Yes—date of MDT meeting:
3.	Probation Officer Completing Form and Date		
	Completed		Date:
4.	DCFS CSW Completing the Form and Date		
	Completed		Date:
5.	DMH Staff Completing Form and Date Completed		
			Date:
6.	DPH Staff Completing the Form and Date		
	Completed		Date:
7.	Was the youth's case terminated during this	0	No
	period?	0	Yes—date terminated:
8.	Did youth receive any citations, violations, or new	0	No
	arrests during this period?	0	Yes—Citations
		0	Yes—Violations
		0	Yes—New Arrest
9.	Did this youth have a reassessment hearing?	0	No
		0	Pending—not held yet
		0	Pending—continued
		0	Yes
10	. Did youth's disposition change during this period?	0	
		0	No but Reassessment Pending/Continued
ļ		0	Yes—Changed fromto

11. Where was youth living at the beginning of this	o Home
period?	o Relative/Kinship Placement
ponou,	Legal GuardianRelative/Kin
	Non Relative Caregiver
•	Legal Guardian—Non-Relative Caregiver
	o Foster Care
	Adaptiva Discovery
	OL-16
	DOES Community Complement Lorent
	Out to Discourant Commence and Corol Croun Home
	Cuitable Discoment Fonter Care
	Residential Treatment Center/Hospital
	Supervised Independent Living
	o Juvenile Hall
	o Camp
	o DJJ
	Other:
12. Did youth's placement change during this period?	o No
	o Yes—# of times:
13. If yes, where was youth living at the end of this	o Home
period?	Relative/Kinship Placement
	o Legal Guardian-Relative/Kin
	o Non Relative Caregiver
	Legal Guardian—Non-Relative Caregiver
	o Foster Care
	o FFA
	Adoptive Placement
	o Shelter
	o DCFS Congregate Care/Group Home
	Suitable Placement Congregate Care/Group Home
	Suitable Placement Foster Care
	Residential Treatment Center/Hospital
	Supervised Independent Living
	o Juvenile Hall
1	o Camp
	o DJJ
	O Other:
14 What was the wouth's normanancy plan at the	N-f AC
14. What was the youth's permanency plan at the	D
beginning of this period?	Day Gardian
	A.J. and Same
	Guardianship     Permanent Planned Living Arrangements
	o Emancipation
15. Did youth's permanency plan change during this	o No
period?	o Yes

6. If yes, what was the youth's permanency plan at	o Not Applicable
the end of this period?	Remain at Home
the end of this period:	o Reunification
	o Adoption
	o Guardianship
,	Demonstrate Diamental Living Arrangements
	Permanent Planned Living Arrangements     Emancipation
EDUCATION	O Emandiputon
17. During this period, was youth enrolled in school?	o No
7. During this period, was youth chronod in solicon.	O Yes—towards the beginning of the period but not the end
	<ul> <li>Yes—at the end of the period but not at the beginning</li> </ul>
	Yes—throughout the entire period
10. If a relied what type of ashael was the youth	N/A – Youth was not enrolled in school
18. If enrolled, what type of school was the youth	Dublic Ochool (non Charton)
attending at the end of this period?	Charter Cohool
	Danie Cahael (Not NDC)
	New Public Cohool (approved through special adjustion)
	New Duklie Cake at Inch approved through appoint adjustion
	One the vetter Cabool
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	o Community Day School
	o Independent Study/Home Teaching Program
	o Adult Education Program
	o College
	On-line Program
	o Juvenile Hall
	o Camp
	o Other:
19. If enrolled, which of the following best	o N/A – Youth was not enrolled in school
characterizes the youth's attendance at school	<ul> <li>Attended regularly (≤ 5% absences)</li> </ul>
during this period?	<ul> <li>Attended sporadically (≥ 15% absences)</li> </ul>
	Attended but did not go to class
	Attended but avoided specific classes
	Poor attendance – rarely attended school
20. Was the Youth credit deficient at the end of this	o N/A, Youth is not yet in high school
period?	No, Youth is on track to graduate on time
·	<ul> <li>Yes, Youth needs assistance earning credits</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Yes, Youth is in credit recovery program</li> </ul>
21. What were the Youth's current grades in core	o Doing Well - mostly As and/or Bs
academic classes (on average) at the end of this	Doing Average – mostly Cs
period?	<ul> <li>Doing Poorly – mostly Ds and/or Fs</li> </ul>
<b>'</b>	<ul> <li>Student's grades range from high to low</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Youth has not completed sufficient work to earn a grade/credi</li> </ul>
·	Academic progress unknown
	o Other:

22. During this period, did the Youth exhibit any school discipline issues?	<ul> <li>No</li> <li>Yes, a suspension, expulsion or opportunity is pending</li> <li>Yes, a history of school discipline issues but none currently</li> <li>Yes, currently suspended or expelled</li> <li>Yes, was given an opportunity transfer</li> </ul>
23. During this period, did the Youth exhibit any behavioral problems at school? Check all that apply.	<ul> <li>None/No significant pattern of problems</li> <li>School attendance/absences/tardies/truancies</li> <li>Insubordination to adults/staff</li> <li>Profanity/vulgarity/obscenity</li> <li>Fighting/Threatening to fight</li> <li>Weapons on campus</li> <li>Prohibited substance on campus</li> <li>Inappropriate touching/sexual behavior</li> <li>Other: (Specify)</li> </ul>
24. During this period, how many contacts did DPO have with or related to this youth?	o # of face to face o # of phone o # of collateral contacts
25. During this period, how many contacts did CSW have with or related to this youth?	o # of face to face o # of phone o # of collateral contacts

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26. Please indicate the youth's compliance with the following conditions of probation (where applicable) during this period of time		B-Perform community service under the substrated and citizenship; & notify DPO of every absence	☐ 15a-Do not participate in any type of gang activity	☐ 19-Do not drink any alcoholic beverages	20-Cooperate in a plan to control abuse of alcohol, controlled substances of possess where users congregate	23-Submit to unhaivsis and skin checks as directed by the DPO to detect the use of narcotics/controlled substances	24-Submit to testing of blood, breath or urine to detect the use of alcohol/controlled substances, when requested	28-Cooperate in a plan for psychiatric/psychological results of treatrient	36-Partcipate in a program of counselling will of without, archived and recreational activities as directed by the DPO	4 in Patricipate in a High School Graduate/GED/WIN program and make continuing progress towards completion	27. During this period, please indicate the status of the referrals and services provided to the youth during this period	Status of Referral/Service			it ☐Referral In Prog ☐Referral Needed ☐Youth Refused ☐Completed	□ Referral In Prog □ Referral Needed □ Fourth Refused □ Completed	☐Referral in Prog ☐Referral Needed ☐Youth Refused ☐Completed	☐ Referral In Prog ☐ Referral Needed ☐ Youth Refused ☐ Completed	tional Assess	□ Referral Needed □ Youth Refused □ Completed	☐ Other:

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# Comments:

# WIC 241.1 UNIT FUNCTION WITHIN THE CROSSOVER MDT MODEL

A Collaborative Process between the Department of Children and Family Services and the Probation Department

# WHAT IS AN ORDER FOR A WIC 241.1 JOINT ASSESSMENT

- The process of considering youth who appear to come within the jurisdiction of both Delinquency and Dependency courts.
- This can be initiated in Delinquency or Dependency court.
- What is the legal definition that mandates what Delinquency or Dependency court should initiate?

# Legal Definition of WIC 241.1

- Welfare and Institutions Code section 241.1 (a) provides that whenever a youth appears to come within the description of both sections 300 and 602, the child welfare services department and the county probation department shall determine which status will serve the best interest of the youth and the protection of society pursuant to a jointly written protocol. Section (b) mandates and describes the protocol to be developed.
- Section (c) mandates that the assessment process be utilized between counties whenever it is alleged that a youth who is

# Legal Definition continued

under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court of one county is alleged to fall within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court of another county.

Section (d) prohibits a youth from simultaneously being a ward and a dependent of the court, except as noted in section(e).

Section (e) permits the probation department and child welfare services department in consultation with the presiding judge of the juvenile court to allow the departments to jointly assess and recommend that the youth be designated as a

# Legal Definition continued

Dual status youth, thereby allowing the youth to be a dependent and a ward of the court simultaneously.

How does an order for a WIC 241.1 Joint Assessment Begin?

# What is the role of the DCFS WIC 241.1 Unit?

- Functions as the Liaison for DCFS between the Probation Department, and the Department of Mental Health.
  - Informs the case-carrying CSW of the order for a joint assessment and the date the 241.1 memo must be completed and instructions for completion.

# Role continued

- Informs the case-carrying CSW of the goals of the crossover project, for example:
  - Reduce the number of dependent youth from becoming wards of Delinquency Court
  - Limit the time delinquent youth are wards of the Delinquency Court by maintaining Dependency Court jurisdiction, when appropriate.
  - Enhance public safety by providing better services to crossover youth and their families.

# Role continued

- Dispose cases with the most appropriate legal status and case plan.
- Improve coordination and integration of service delivery and information sharing between agencies.
- Provide a continuum of service delivery appropriate to the strengths and needs of individual youth.

# Role continued

- Schedules and attends the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings representatives from DCFS (case-carrying CSW), Probation (DPO), DMH (clinician) and DCFS's Education Liaison Section.
- Reviews the DCFS 241.1 memo, gathers any additional information from DCFS records, e. g., mental health records, school records, which is reviewed at the Assessment Meeting. Ensures that complete information is included:

# Contents of 241.1 Memo

- Dependency History
- Personal Information
- · Family Dynamics
- · Placement History
- · School Information

# Contents of 241.1 Memo

- · Case Plan
- Services
- · Mental Health
- · Health Information
- · Safety Issues

# Role continued

Assists the Team through the dynamic process of assessing all of the presenting information and formulating a case plan using the 241.1 MDT Court Recommendations/Case Plan Grid and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each agency in the case plan and to identify which agency, DCFS or Probation must take the lead in carrying out the case plan.

# Role continued

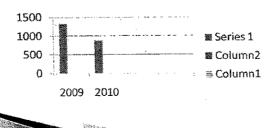
 Assists the Team to make a cohesive and appropriate joint recommendation to Delinquency Court regarding the delinquency status for the youth, e.g., dismissal of the delinquency petition, joint supervision with DCFS with the youth on informal or formal probation or sole supervision by the Probation Department.

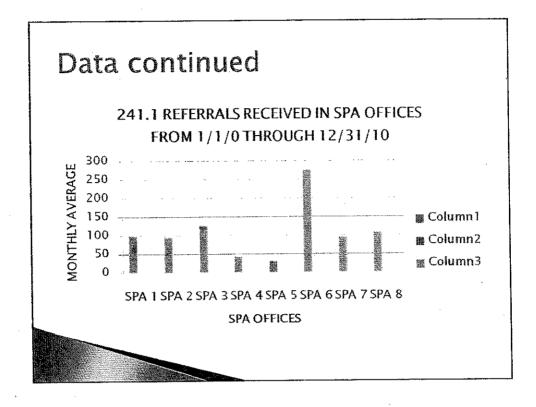
# Role continued

- Collaborate with County Counsel and provide advocacy on cases when needed, e.g., attend court hearings.
- Schedules the 241.1 Progress Hearing in Dependency Court in collaboration with the Clerk's Office.
- Keeps records of DCFS reports submitted to Probation and copy of Probation Officer's reports sent to Delinquency Court. Obtains disposition minute orders from Delinquency Court. Forwards folder to casecarrying CSW after disposition hearing.

# Data collection

- Maintains database on all dependent youth referred for WIC 241.1 Joint Assessments.
- Chart shows the number of referrals received in calendar years 2009 and 2010.





# DCFS 241.1 UNIT ROSTER

- ARA Wilhelmina Bradley (323) 526-6705
- ▶ SCSW Margaret Boecherer (323) 526-6756
- > CSW Marjorie Allen (323) 526-6895
- > CSW Christina Ayala (323) 526-6702
- ▶ CSW Nancy Hashimoto (323) 526-6740
- CSW Linda Jackson (323) 526-6761
- CSW Ngu-Mui Lu (323) 526-6843
- CSW Kathleen Porter (323) 526-6755
- > CSW Tammi Tran (323) 526-6844
- ▶ ITC Leticia Gonzales (323) 526-6751

# Overview of Los Angeles County Probation AB 12/212 Activities and Placement Services Bureau's Transition Jurisdiction Services Program

### **Background**

AB 12 and AB 212, known collectively as The California Fostering Connections to Success Act, were passed during September of 2010 and 2011 respectively and went into effect January 1, 2012. Subsequently, in September 2012, AB 1712 "clean up" legislation was passed.

Starting January 2011, The Los Angeles County Probation Department (Probation) has been involved at the State and local levels to help shape and implement AB 12, AB 212 and AB 1712. AB 212, in particular, dealt in large part with defining Extended Foster Care (EFC) for youth under WIC 602 - Delinquency Jurisdiction, and a new juvenile jurisdiction status; WIC 450 – Transition Jurisdiction.

# Extended Foster Care Populations under Probation and Post-Probation Supervision

Extended Foster Care (EFC) generally refers to youth 18 years and up to 21 years old who remain on an order for foster care placement made by the Juvenile Court. Two populations of youth in EFC come under the supervision of Probation:

- 1) Youth under WIC 602 Jurisdiction who are on a placement order (Suitable Placement) on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday; and
- 2) Youth 17 years and over five months old and up to 21 year old,
  - A. on a foster care placement order who have completed their rehabilitative goals, and;
  - B. elects to remain in foster care under WIC 450 Transition Jurisdiction.

Youth who are at least 18 years old are called *Nonminor Dependents* while those youth between 17 years and six months and just under 18 year old are called *Transition Dependents*. Finally, to receive foster care or EFC benefits, transition dependents and nonminor dependents must be in process of performing one of five eligibility criteria:

- 1. Be enrolled in high school or equivalent program;
- 2. Be enrolled in college/vocational school;
- 3. Work at least 80 hours/month
- 4. Participate in a program/activity that helps the youth find or removes barriers to employment;
- 5. Be able to do one of the above because of a medical or mental health condition.

# <u>Transition Jurisdiction Services: Probation's EFC Program for youth under WIC 450 – Transition Jurisdiction</u>

AB 12/212 provided individual counties with the option if they wanted the WIC 450 - Transition Jurisdiction youth supervised by local child welfare or probation departments. Los Angeles

TJS General Summary December 2014

County decided that youth under this new juvenile jurisdiction would best be served supervised by Probation. To that end, Probation developed a new program, *Transition Jurisdiction Services* (TJS), to provide supervision, support and guidance to youth in EFC under WIC 450 Jurisdiction. Youth with placement orders who are 18 years old and under WIC 602 Jurisdiction will continue to be supervised by DPOs from Probation's *Residential Based Services* (RBS) Program.

### **Extended Foster Care Placements**

The foster care placements that Probation currently utilizes can continue to be used by nonminor dependents whether under WIC 602 or 450. These placements are comprised of group homes and relative or non-relative care givers. However, a nonminor dependent in a group home can only remain in that setting until he/she graduates high school, obtains a GED or turns 19 years old, whichever comes first.

In addition to creating the new juvenile jurisdiction category (WIC 450) for youth previously on probation who wish to remain in foster care, AB 12/212 also created two new placement settings for youth in EFC:

- 1) Transitional Housing Program Plus Foster Care (THP Plus FC) and;
- 2) Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP).

### Reentry into EFC

Generally, the delinquency court will order WIC 450 – Transition Jurisdiction at the hearing to terminate probation, assuming the nonminor dependent wants to remain in foster care and the court finds it in the youth's best interest to do so. However, AB 12/212 also created a judicial process that allows youths who decide not to remain in foster care at the time probation is terminated to *reenter* foster care under WIC 450 at a later date. Reentry is also available to youths who had been under WIC 450 but whose case had been terminated due to noncompliance.

#### **Contact Information**

For more information about Probation's Transition Jurisdiction Services Program, contact:

Jed Minoff, Director

Jedediah.minoff@probation.lacounty.gov

Kim Keating, SDPO Kim.keating@probation.lacounty.gov